

## Newsletter February 2012

14th February 2012

### Dear Partners and Friends

The first month of the New Year is already over – time is flying! We hope you had a great start. May the year 2012 will not just be a successful year for FOSS in Africa but also for all of you individually.

#### Wind of change in the ict@innovation team

**Balthas** has switched responsibilities: He is now working at the group "Global Knowledge Cooperation and Alumni" within GIZ, focusing on issues such as peer-to-peer networking, knowledge cooperation, community empowerment, commons-based peer production, open innovation competitions, and Social Networks for and with Alumni. So luckily, he is well suited in this new position to continue to support ict@innovation reach one important step in 2012: to make sure that the programme and its linkages continue to blossom beyond the funding contribution phase of BMZ.



#### **Balthas invites you to stay in touch via the "Alumni Portal Germany":**

*It has been a real pleasure to work with all of you in building "ict@innovation" and I am sad to leave the programme at this exciting stage of a rapidly growing community. I personally learned a lot by interacting with you and by listening to your success stories around building business and learning opportunities with FOSS in Africa. In fact, you have "open sourced" me in a sustainable manner. This is why I would very much like to stay in touch with you personally and of course professionally.*

*I therefore invite you to remain connected through the 'Alumni Portal Germany', where Petra, George and I have opened an "ict@innovation alumni group" for you. I admit it, the last part of my message is a bit of self promotion, as my new work unit is hosting this central Social Networking Platform of GIZ, where you can meet more than 40.000 fellow Alumni (BTW: the portal is fully open source). So please link up with me at the "Alumni Portal Germany". Just follow the "5-step how-to guide" [below](#) or online at [www.ict-innovation.fossfa.net/alumni](http://www.ict-innovation.fossfa.net/alumni)!*

Yours,  
Balthas

**Petra**, who has been into ict@innovation from day 1, will navigate the ict@innovation ship and closely work with **Steffi** who is new on board. So for all questions related to the programme, please do not hesitate to contact either Petra ([petra.hagemann@giz.de](mailto:petra.hagemann@giz.de)) or Steffi ([steffi.meyer@giz.de](mailto:steffi.meyer@giz.de)).

*We, Petra and Steffi, are looking forward to further exchange and cooperation in 2012 and invite you to check some of this year's actions and upcoming initiatives at <http://www.ict-innovation.fossfa.net>. The main lines of action 2012 will be to extend the ict@innovation programme to francophone Africa, to empower the ict@innovation communities and to sustain the programme as a whole. Talk soon!*

**George** has removed his GIZ penguin suit but will stay in touch and exchange with ict@innovation. We would like to thank him for his outstanding engagement and wish him all the best for his future and his new job!



With George moving offices, **Ms Mercy Mulinge** from our GIZ office in Pretoria will be involved more in the coordination of ict@innovation. You can contact her at [mercy.mulinge@giz.de](mailto:mercy.mulinge@giz.de).

**Mr Mawusee Komla**, based in Togo, is the new FOSSFA and ict@innovation community empowerment manager. His raison d'être is to give all the necessary impulses so the community will continue to grow. He will support the FOSSFA and ict@innovation community and can be reached via [cem@fossfa.net](mailto:cem@fossfa.net)



We trust you are well.  
Your GIZ penguins

## Review of Second Half 2012

### FOSS Business Models (Pillar A)

In October 2011, the 1st West African FOSS Business Model took place. After a highly engaging e-learning session, about 20 enthusiastic participants from several West African countries went to the Resource Centre in the Ministry of Education Office in Abuja, Nigeria, to meet for a two-week face-to-face training.



They are now implementing national roll-out plans for follow-up trainings in Nigeria, Cameroon, Togo and Senegal. The ict@innovation team thanks the participants and the trainers – Mr Fred Yeboah, Mrs Shirley A. Baffoe, Mr Oyedele Ajisomo, Mr James Wire and Mr John Matogo – for making the first Training of Trainers on African FOSS Business Models a success!

**More than 10 follow-up trainings on African FOSS Business Models were conducted** by our FOSS Business Trainers in 2011. The new FOSS Business Trainers continue the roll-out of the trainings in their countries. Please visit <http://www.ict-innovation.fossfa.net/courses> to find out about upcoming trainings in your country!

**The open training material Free your IT Business in Africa has been transferred to a mediawiki.** Now it's much easier for you to add to the material and include new Case studies. Please visit [http://wiki.it-inwent.org/index.php/Free\\_Your\\_IT\\_Business\\_in\\_Africa](http://wiki.it-inwent.org/index.php/Free_Your_IT_Business_in_Africa) All training materials are still available as a book for free download at the following link of the ict@innovation website: <http://www.ict-innovation.fossfa.net/node/4252>

**The material will soon be made available in French.** We will keep you posted!



## Linux Admin Certification (Pillar B)

The regional drive to increase the number of qualified Linux Administrators gathers pace and momentum.

**In August 2011, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Regional Linux Administrator Training of Trainers took place** at the National Institute of Training (NIT) in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. It brought together about 20 participants from East Africa. The majority came from Universities across East Africa – such as University of Dar es Salaam, University of Dodoma from Tanzania, Catholic, Inoorero and Moi Universities in Kenya, and University of Addis Ababa, Bahir Dar, Arba Minch, and Alpha Universities in Ethiopia. The participants were selected on the basis of their experience with Linux Systems Administration, and their plans to roll out LPI training in their countries. Most of the trainers passed the Linux Professional Certification Level 1, which was offered as a final exam after the training. The number of Linux Admin Trainers and of certified Linux System Administrators in Africa is increasing!

**More than 15 follow-up trainings on Linux System Administration** were conducted by our FOSS Certification Trainers in 2011, and trainers continue the roll-out of the trainings in their countries. The pool of more than 60 qualified [ict@innovation](mailto:ict@innovation.fossfa.net) Linux System Administration trainers are preparing for more national trainings on Linux system administration in their countries. Please watch out for trainings in your country at <http://www.ict-innovation.fossfa.net/courses-certification>

**The Linux System Administration LPI Level 1 Training Guide has been transferred to a mediawiki.** It's now much easier for you to add to the material and include new examples. Please visit [http://wiki.it-inwent.org/index.php/LPI\\_Level\\_1\\_Training\\_Guide](http://wiki.it-inwent.org/index.php/LPI_Level_1_Training_Guide). This is where you can download the latest materials. The compiled training materials are still available for free download at the following link of the [ict@innovation](mailto:ict@innovation.fossfa.net) website: <http://www.ict-innovation.fossfa.net/wiki/public-wiki/foss-certification-training-material/lpi-testing-engines>

## Outlook 2012

The year 2012 will be a busy and exciting period, with the main focus lying on Community Empowerment. Here's a short overview:

## FOSS Business Models (Pillar A)

- **Empowering the FOSS Business Community through self-governance**  
Our main goal in 2012 is to ensure that the network will further grow and stay strong. If you are interested in supporting the FOSS business community activities and be part of the team for marketing, the training material, training advisory or another community team, please send a message to [cem@fossfa.net](mailto:cem@fossfa.net). For details on the self-governance group, please visit <http://www.ict-innovation.fossfa.net/wiki/public-wiki/advanced-training-material-african-foss-business-models/fbt-way-forward>
- **More National Training Roll-outs**  
Please visit <http://www.ict-innovation.fossfa.net/courses> to find out about upcoming trainings on FOSS Business Models in your country. If you are planning to offer a training on FOSS Business Models, please register your course at the above link.
- **Expanding the programme to francophone West Africa**  
The first Training of Trainers course on African FOSS Business Models in French is going to take place in Senegal mid-2012. Please watch out for the call for participation, which will be published soon on the [ict@innovation](mailto:ict@innovation.fossfa.net) websites! Within the next weeks the translation of the [ict@innovation](mailto:ict@innovation.fossfa.net) FOSS Business Models Training manual for our French-speaking community members and trainers will be finalized.

## Linux Admin Certification (Pillar B)

- **Empowering the Linux Admin Certification group through self-governance**  
FOSS certification trainers are preparing for national trainings on Linux system administration in their countries. Please watch out for trainings in your country at <http://www.ict-innovation.fossfa.net/courses-certification>

## Idlelo 5

The 5<sup>th</sup> African Free and Open Source Conference Idlelo will take place in Abuja, Nigeria, from 19<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2011 under the theme of "Open Source Solutions for Achieving the Millennium development Goals".

- **Join the ict@innovation activities at Idlelo**
  - A workshop on FOSS Business Models
  - A Linux Admin certification bootcamp
  - An LPI- certification exam as well as
  - Presentations of ict@innovation community members of their activities
- This year ict@innovation is also supporting **The Africa FOSS Business Innovation Award** which honors Free and Open Source Software (FOSS) business development in Africa. If you wish to present your innovative FOSS solution and business model to a large audience at Idlelo, please apply for the award until 28<sup>th</sup> February. Details on the application procedures can be found here <http://www.ict-innovation.fossfa.net/Award>
- Join Idlelo 5 and register to the conference: <http://idlelo.net/>
- If you wish to present at the Idlelo, **please apply for a presentation or a talk**. The call for papers ends on 20<sup>th</sup> February. For details, please visit <http://idlelo.net/node/8>

### 5-step how-to guide

#### **ict@innovation participant or partner? Join the Group "Alumni of ict@innovation" on the Alumni Portal Germany!**

Have you participated in training-of-trainer courses of ict@innovation or in one of its networking events? Are you a partner or friend of the FOSSFA/GIZ programme "ict@innovation"? Then you are cordially invited to join the new group "Alumni of ict@innovation " on the Alumniportal Germany. This will enable you to:

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- ... link up with all fellow trainers, participants, partners & friends of ict@innovation
  - ... stay in touch with GIZ through regular news for alumni and a "Topic of the month"
  - ... promote your services to a worldwide community
  - ... get to know other experts trained by GIZ, DAAD and others and link up with them
  - ... get to know more about world-wide events and training-initiatives
  - ... get access to job offers from your region and other tips
  - ... get more information about the German language

**Step 1: Register** at the Alumni Portal Germany of GIZ through the following page: <https://www.alumniportal-deutschland.org/services/login/select.html> . Click on the button "Register as Alumni" (please skip this step, if you are already registered). After registration, the system will send you access data and confirm your e-mail.

**Step 2: Login.** Click on the following link: ([https://www.alumniportal-deutschland.org/services/login\\_275.html? fwd=%2Fcommunity%2Fpg%2Fgroups%2F2571001%2Fictinnovation-alumni-trainers-partners-friends](https://www.alumniportal-deutschland.org/services/login_275.html? fwd=%2Fcommunity%2Fpg%2Fgroups%2F2571001%2Fictinnovation-alumni-trainers-partners-friends)).

You will be asked to login (with the name and password chosen at step one). You will then be directed to the start page of the group "Alumni of ict@innovation – trainers, participants, partners & friends"

**Step 3: Request membership** to the group. Click on the button "Request membership" (this is the second button in the middle row in blue). A request mail will be sent to us, and we will try and admit you to the group within 24 hours. Then you're in...

**Step 4: Connect** with your ict@innovation contacts and friends – start by connecting with GIZ and FOSSFA programme management: Add [George](#) as your contact, add [Petra](#) as your contact, add [Balthas](#) as your contact, add [Mercy](#) as your contact, add [Nnenna](#) as your contact, add [Fred](#) as your contact, add [Steffi](#) as your contact.

**Step 5: Bookmark** the [group](#): and your [personal community dashboard](#) as a favorite within your browser and complete your [profile](#).

Backup: If something went wrong and you don't find the group, search for the term "ict@innovation" in the search window on the left hand menu. If you have other questions, contact Balthas Seibold of GIZ at [balthas.seibold \[at\] giz.de](mailto:balthas.seibold@giz.de)

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We look forward to keeping you updated on these and other activities via this newsletter.

And of course we are also looking forward to hearing from you. If you have any comments or suggestions, please email them to [mercy.mulinge@giz.de](mailto:mercy.mulinge@giz.de) or [cem@fossfa.net](mailto:cem@fossfa.net).

For current ict@innovation news, please visit <http://www.ict-innovation.fossfa.net>.

Yours

Mercy & Mawusee

on behalf of the ict@innovation programme team

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